

SLS MIRROR



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EDITORIAL



“HOLDING ON AND LETTING GO”

Keeping with what we mentioned in the last month's editorial, we at SLS Mirror, wish you a very Happy New Year. We hope that you achieve all that you wish to and that this year brings all the brightness you want in your life. January 2015, was and will probably be one of the most eventful months of the year in India, Gujarat and in Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University.

This new year began with the biggest Global Summits in India, Vibrant Gujarat beginning from the 11th of January to the 13th. The CEO conclave, which hosted guests such as Mr. Narendra Modi, Beneditto Braga (President, World Water Council), Bindu Lohani (Vice President, Asian Developing Bank) etc. was held in Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University. And hence, on the 11th of January, PDPU went Global.

The next big event on our calendars was the 26th of January. On the 66th Republic Day of India, President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Narendra Modi joined hands; this has set the tone for our foreign policy for the years to come. Apart from this, many ideas were conceptualized and will be executed this year. For example, on college level, for the month of February, we have a whole new fest called the PDPU LitFest coming up on the 14th, we are hosting a National Level Psychology conference and Petrocup (Inter University Sports) from the 5th to 9th, in the month of March, we have Flare! We have so much to look forward to! It's been a great month filled with activity and vibrancy, but this was just the beginning.



Global CEO Conclave

The Global CEO conclave held on 11th January, 2015 was one of the major highlights of Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2015. PDPU had the responsibility of hosting this gathering of some of the most dynamic and powerful leaders, on its ground. The event was presided by the Honorable Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi along with Honorable Chief Minister of Gujarat, Smt. Anandiben Patel and Honorable Finance Minister of India, Mr. Arun Jaitley. The UN Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki Moon was our special guest along with the US Secretary of State, Mr. John Kerry.

Over the years, the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit has evolved into one of the most dynamic knowledge-sharing and networking platforms for global business seekers looking to identify emerging opportunities and trends. The objective of the Government of Gujarat, to plan India's first Global CEO Conclave during Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, was to drive a futuristic vision for India. This event brought together global corporations and distinguished personalities for thought-provoking discussions on the strategies for India's growth, with our Prime Minister.

It was a matter of great pride for Gujarat to have hosted an international level conclave which matches the likes of Davos or The World Economic Forum. It started with the arrival of our esteemed Chairman of PDPU, Dr. Mukesh Ambani, who was welcomed by the eagerly waiting student volunteers. Mr. Deepak Parekh, the Chairman of HDFC bank, was also present.

While it was attended by many global industry leaders, it also saw attendance by Indian corporate honchos like Adi Godrej, Gautam Adani, Sunil Mittal and Chanda Kochhar among others. The conclave saw people from all the three sectors of business, NGO's and government from all over the world. The attendees of the CEO conclave gave ideas to our Prime Minister based on the objective of furthering India's growth. It was a unique experience, packed with high levels of energy and enthusiasm created by the presence of such distinguished luminaries. All students involved were bustling with excitement on getting a chance to see some of their role models. It was a conclave which showed that Indian industry and economy is all set to bring growth, development and opportunities to the people of India in the coming years.

-Saksham Singh



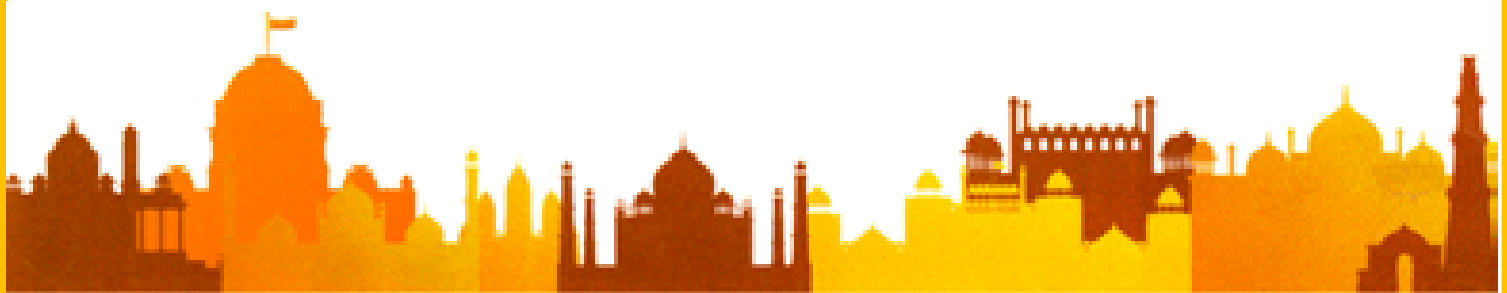
The Vibrant Memories



At times, we run short of words to describe some experiences. The experience that I would like to mention here is that of my Vibrant Gujarat, 2015 internship. It started with a "call for volunteers" e-mail but I never thought that it would turn out to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that I was to cherish for a lifetime.

The concept behind the Mahatma Mandir can put people into deep thought. To an ordinary person, it may seem to be a gigantic structure only meant for events like the VG, but an insight into its finer details of construction would make everyone believe that the structure does go by its name. Every angle, numerical value or concept is linked in one way or the other to the Father of the Nation. For example, the entire building is not vertical, as most normal buildings are, but is inclined to a certain angle in which Gandhiji used to walk. Gandhi lived for 79 years and taking this into consideration, there are 79 gardens in the central vista which stretch from Mahatma Mandir to the Vidhaan Sabha.

Every moment spent at iNDEXTb and Mahatma Mandir was filled with learning experiences. I got to intern with the government during the time of the first Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit. Working with an IAS officer was an achievement in itself. Moreover, I developed intricate mannerisms and interpersonal skills that we all need to inculcate in ourselves, thanks to this internship. I was placed at Mahatma Mandir, the place where the world was going to converge in six days- three of the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas and three of the Vibrant Gujarat Summit. Till now, I had only seen people like the Hon. Chief Minister, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, General V.K Singh etc on the television. But this internship gave me an opportunity to meet them, be a part of their meetings and understand the way things need to be put into action for such a mega event.



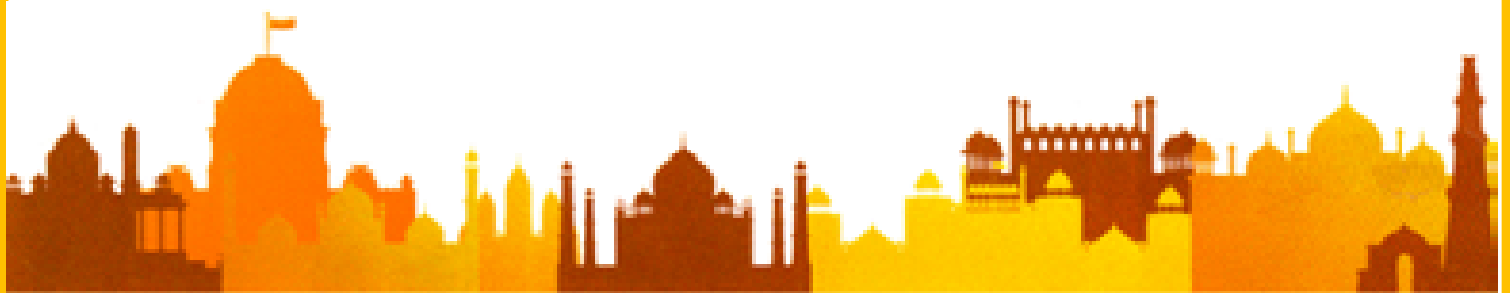
The Vibrant Memories

Understanding the line of demarcation between a junior and a senior in a government sector is very important. At Mahatma Mandir, I had been an assistant to the Officer on Special Duty there. Handling numerous agencies and their problems and ensuring that the interests of all are served in the best possible way was a challenge in itself. Drafting formal mails, sending out notices, co-ordinating with all the agencies and ensuring that they finish their work in the stipulated time frame were some of the things that I had to do under the Retd. IAS officers.

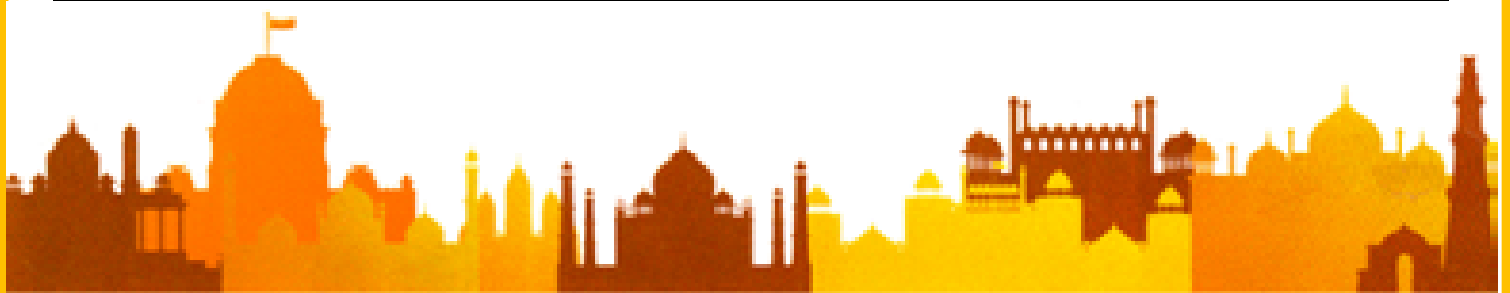
One of the things which made me feel very happy was that I got a chance to work and interact with the people of the TAJ group. They taught me to work in order amidst chaos and not loose temper. They tend to possess a level of sophistication that every individual must inculcate into the professional sphere. I was amazed by the level of security during the event and preparation for its smooth functioning. People from the SPG, the ATS, the DIG and all the higher officials in charge of the security at the venue held a number of meetings and I attended them too. Right from testing of the food samples and water, to the kind of room fresheners that were to be used, everything was checked.

Getting a chance to listen to the PM, John Kerry (the U.S. Secretary of the State), H.E. Ban-Ki-Moon, and the remaining 122 people who shared the stage with the PM is a memory I will treasure. I also got to know how much popular our university is in the government sector and the faith that the officials have in our students and administration. Also, I am thankful to all the faculties whose words of wisdom bind me during the times when I lost my head, their support and the confidence they showed in me, without which I would never have been able to mark the optimum use of this opportunity. In a nutshell, this internship was indeed a *vibrant* one.

Vedant Sharma



Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas



Republic Day Celebration

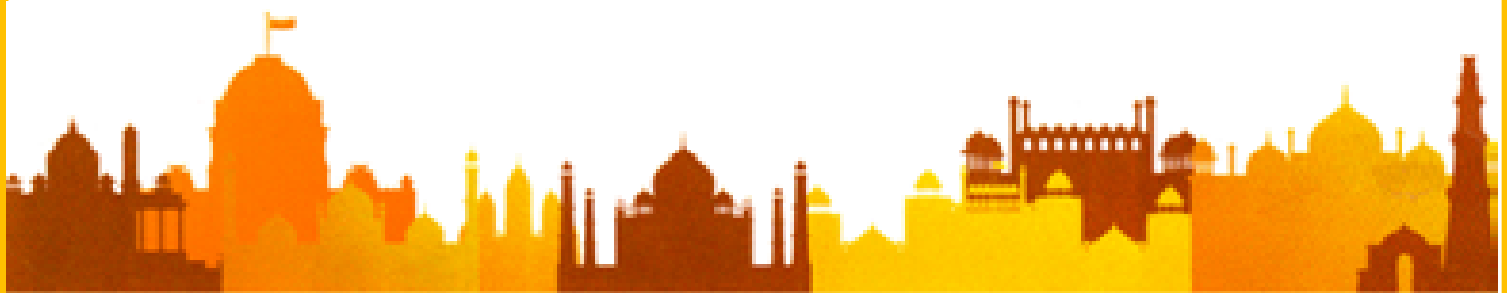


“DEMOCRACY IS THE ROAD TO SOCIALISM”

On the 26th of January, India celebrated its Republic day, a day which 66 years ago marked the birth of our democratic republic. On this day, on international news, we had President Barack Obama join us as the Chief Guest. On national news, we had Wing Commander Pooja Thakur who escorted President Barack Obama during the Guard of Honour inspection in Rashtrapati Bhavan. On local news, we had Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University celebrate India's 66th Republic Day with grandeur.

The programme started when the Director General of the University arrived, after which we saw our very own NCC Parade. After unfurling of the tri-coloured glory, the Director General addressed the crowd, and then began the cultural programme which showcased musical, dance and recital performances. The morning of 26th January, 2015 saw a beautiful display of talent and commitment. The conclusion of the Republic Day celebrations reignited the fire of patriotism in every individual present there.

-Arunima Dayanand



SLS Mirror Recommends

Sites:

Howcast: Professional and user-generated how-to videos.
www.howcast.com

Internet Archive: Collection of more than two-hundred thousand free historical videos, mainly academic.
archive.org

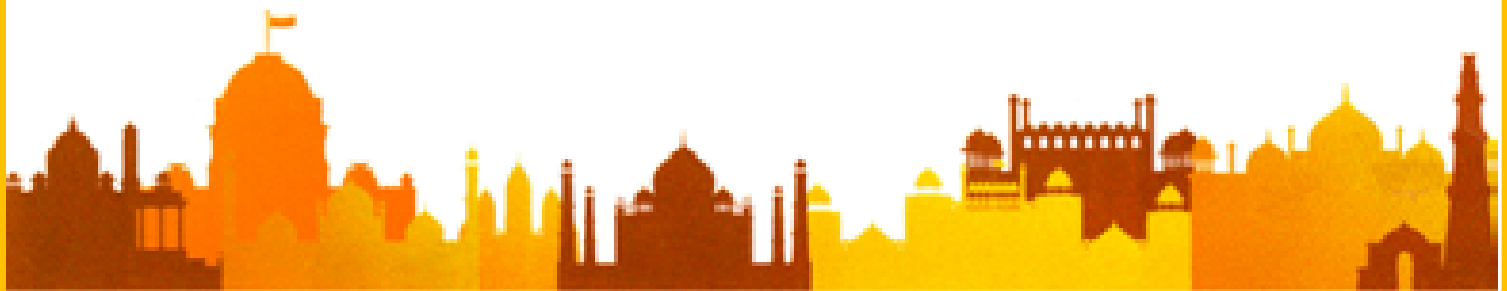
Blogs:

The F word

Founded in 2001, the UK's first feminist webzine is responsible for reviving debates around feminism in Britain. Edited by Jess McCabe, the site, which receives around 3,000 hits a day, is dedicated to providing a forum for contemporary feminist voices, with a daily news blog, features on stereotypes and censorship, podcasts on pornography and regular feminist film reviews.

Copyblogger

It's dry, real, and deafeningly practical, but for an online writing-for-the-internet blog, Copyblogger, founded in 2006, is remarkably interesting. Swelling with advice on online writing, it's an essential tool for anyone trying to make themselves heard online, whether commenting on a discussion board or putting together a corporate website.



SLS Mirror Recommends

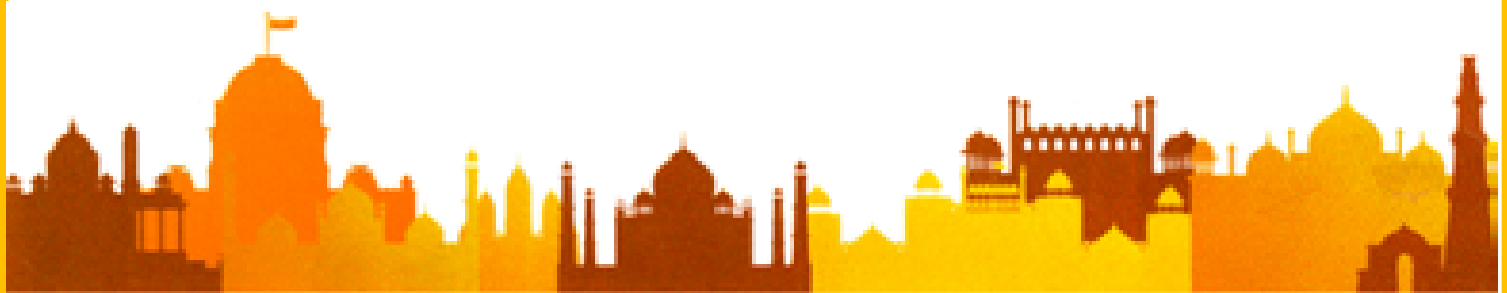
Apps:

Groupon

The original deal locator for mobile, Groupon partners with businesses to offer low prices to a certain number of people for a limited time. While the value of Groupon's offerings is sometimes debatable, it is a useful way to try a new restaurant in your area or try a totally new activity.

Flipboard

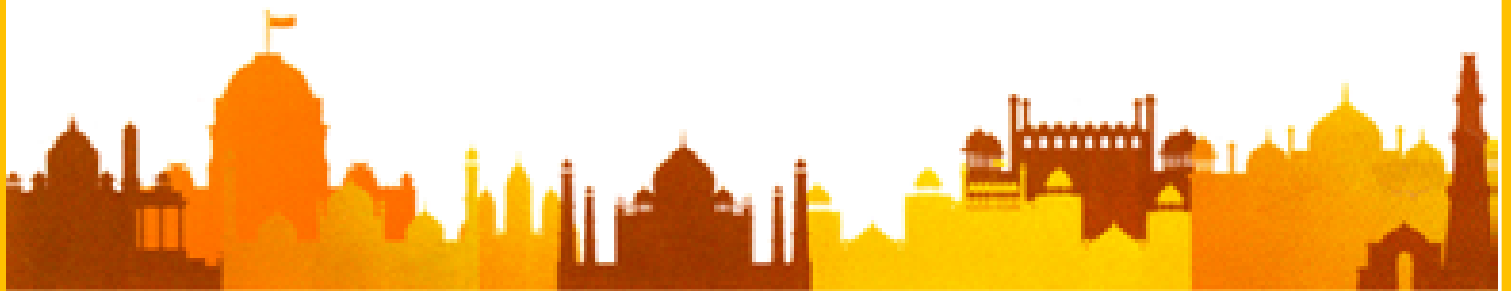
Even the best news sites don't always look great on your mobile device, and that's where Flipboard comes in. This handy app lets you flip through articles reformatted into a magazine style, with very readable text and large images. The unique "flip" interface is perfect for idly paging through the news in search of something interesting



ANOTHER GAME TO PLAY

Here comes another day, another game to play
Another move to make, bigger than yesterday.
I have to win, I need to fight!
Every step I take has got to be right.
The fight is endless; the game is never-ending
Because every day is a new beginning.
There comes a point where I want to stop,
But I have to win, and reach the top.
The challenges get tougher and tougher day by day,
I won't quit, oh no, no way!
In this game of life that's hard to play,
I won't forget to live each day.
I won't miss out on those lovely birds
Or making fun of geeks and nerds.
I'll laugh out loud, I'll dance and run,
I'll watch the rising yellow sun.
He gave me life and set me free,
To play or to quit is up to me.
And here comes another day, another game to play
Another move to make, bigger than yesterday.

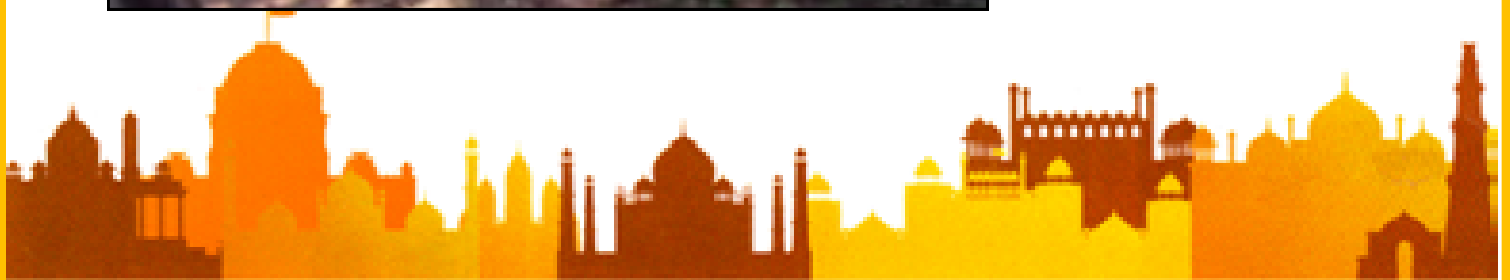
AYESHAH
SLS '14



Create-Witty



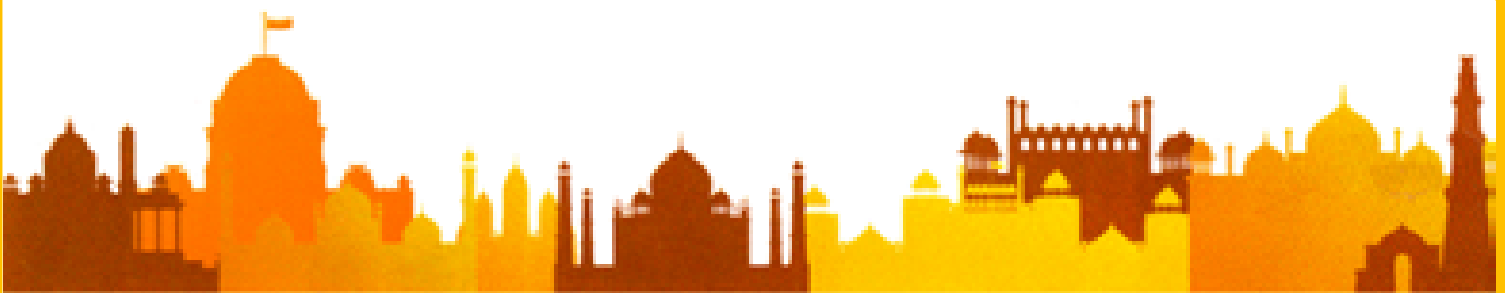
ANMOL .N. JAIN
SLS '13



SLS Reaches Out To Academia

Dr. Ritu Sharma , conducted a training session on "Understanding Group Behaviour in Organizations" for Power sector executives from the state of Gujarat organized by the School of Petroleum Management, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gandhinagar (Executive Certificate programme on management) on 6th January 2015.

SLS Mirror Features in Ahmedabad Mirror



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